

MEETING MINUTES

Hilltop Neighborhood Working Group Meeting
Latin American Community Center
403 North Van Buren Street

Friday, February 11, 2005
9:00 am

ATTENDEES:

Council Member Bud Freel
Gretchen Gilchrist -Council Staff
Isaac Kornegay
Kathy Holliday-Lane -L&I
Minerva Marrero- Mayor's Office
Elena M. Gomez -WENH
Gela Petrucci- LACC
Marcia Starks – Mayor's Office
Sheena Bey – ACORN
Toshiba Hayman -Real Estate & Housing
Perry Price –Real Estate & Housing
Andrea Nardone- St Paul's Church
Robert Johnson-WPD
Cpl. Izquiero- WPD
Lt. Mitch Rock – WPD

Sgt. Dennis O'Connor
Gwendolyn Jimevies-LACC
David Gwyn – Westside Coalition
Rep. Helene M. Keeley
Cecila Cardesa-Lusardo-Voices Without Borders
Keith Booker – Real Estate and Housing
Jeff Starkey – L&I
Derrick Lightfoot – Planning
Council Member Sammy Prado
Carmen Silva- LA OFF OFE
Rev. Benard Thompson
Gloria Ortiz – JP Morgan Chase
Ed Stone – Public Works
Fr. Wm. McIntyre- St. Paul's Church

Introductions:

Marcia Starks called the meeting to order and asked for introductions.

Reports:

Police: Corporal Izquierdo gave the report.

The report was reviewed. Cpl. Izquierdo stated that the old Min's Market is open and operating with some of the same problems before the closing. The Law Department will contact the new owner to schedule a meeting. The police continue to attend community meetings. Other identified areas of concern were Conrad and Harrison Streets, 5th and Van Buren and the 1300 block of 6th Street.

Addresses were given to the police to investigate for possible drug activity.

Community concerns may be addressed to Sgt Dennis O'Connor at 463-4216, Cpl. Johnson at 379-3673 and Cpl. Izquierdo at 588-5975.

REAL ESTATE AND HOUSING: Keith Booker reported that the Allies are developing a 4 block map of rental properties in the 5th District. Elena Gomez and West End Neighborhood Association are working on a similar project and will work with the Allies Toshiba Hayman and Perry Price.

LICENSES & INSPECTIONS: Commissioner Jeff Starkey provided an overview of the following properties: 1305 West 5th Street – vacant and secure

1306 West 5th Street – vacant and boarded/ permit posted

1329 West 5th Street – vacant and secure/court case pending

220 North Harrison Street – vacant and secure/ the owner has been cited for broken steps

222 North Harrison Street- vacant and secure/ placed on the vacant property list for November 2005 fees.

306 North Franklin Street – vacant and boarded/property boarded on the bottom not the top. Report was given that people are getting into the property through top windows. L&I will look into the matter.

308 North Franklin Street – Sheriff sale/ owner not located

1116 West 6th Street – vacant and boarded/ property owned by the mortgage company.

1118 West 6th Street – vacant and secure/ sheriff sale stayed due to owner in the military in Iraq.

314 North Franklin Street – property owner sent 10-day letter to take the signs down.

Additional addresses were given to L&I for inspection.

People were encouraged to report complaints to L&I at 576-3030 or Kevin Wilson at 576-3055.

LACC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION: Report at the next meeting.

They have two houses available for sale: 224 and 229 North Harrison Street.

COMMUNITY LEGAL AID: Report at the next meeting.

PUBLIC WORKS: Ed Stone reported that 14 loads were picked up totaling 31.75 tons. Call 576-2489 to make report pothole problems.

WHA: Report at the next meeting.

PLANNING: Community Notebooks have been drafted. The Community Notebooks are currently being edited. Distribution is expected within the next 30 days.

COMMENTS:

Jose Vasquez requested assistance in setting up a Neighborhood Watch. For more information, contact him at. jvazquez@westendh.org

David Gwynn announced that the Westside Neighborhood Association is having AIDS Delaware speak at the February 16, 2005 meeting. The meeting is from 6:30pm-8pm at St. Paul's Church.

West End Neighborhood House is having its 2005 Housing Fair on March 19, 2005 from 10am-2pm. The staff is bilingual.

Sheena Bey from ACORN announced that the State of Delaware does not allow Conective to set up a program to provide assistance to low income people. She asked the community to contact their elected representatives to encourage the General Assembly to consider this program. For more information about ACORN Sheena Bey can be contacted at 656-3699 or 438-7014 by e-mail shesabey@cs.com .

Council Member Bud Freel announced that the Delaware Center for Horticulture will be working on the trees in the spring.

Public Works has published the trash information booklets. They are available for pick up.

Next Meeting: March 11, 2005